



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

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#### NEWS RELEASE

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### **OIL, GAS AND MINING COMPANIES TO HIGHLIGHT ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS**

#### **Ten companies nominated for Board of Oil, Gas and Mining Earth Day Awards**

Ten oil, gas and mining companies will make presentations before the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining to explain work they think is worthy of recognition with a 2006 Earth Day Award. The presentations will be made Wednesday, March 22, 2006, in the auditorium of the Utah Department of Natural Resources, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah. Nominee presentations begin at 8:30 a.m.

The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining established the awards program in 1991 to recognize those companies or individuals who go beyond what is required by regulation in protecting the environment while providing society with essential natural resources. Since then 68 Earth Day Awards have been presented to companies, organizations or individuals.

“Extractive industries are often perceived as the bad guys,” said Board Chairman Jim Peacock. “The fact is the vast majority of operators remain in compliance with environmental regulations and many go beyond what is required, we think it’s important to recognize that commitment.”

Making presentations this year are: The National Energy Foundation; Bill Barrett Corporation; Hewitt Energy Group; Newfield Production Company; Canyon Fuel Company, Skyline Mine; Canyon Fuel Company, SUFCO Mine; Energy West Mining Company; Plateau Mining Corporation; Barrick Gold of North America, Inc.; and Simplot Phosphate, LLC.

Those operators the board determines to be deserving of recognition will be invited back to receive their awards at the board’s next hearing on April 26. For more information about the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining, or Earth Day Awards, go to [www.ogm.utah.gov](http://www.ogm.utah.gov).

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